



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

AUG 26 2010

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

The Honorable Mike Johanns
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Johanns:

Thank you for your letter of July 23, 2010, to Administrator Jackson concerning the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) coordination with the Department of State regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline Project. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your letter.

As a cooperating agency, EPA provided informal preliminary comments to the Department of State on a working-draft version of the DEIS prior to its publication. Once the DEIS was published and circulated for public review and comment, EPA began to develop formal comments pursuant to its responsibility under the Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 309. This effort entailed coordination with many different program offices within EPA as well as the three EPA Regional offices through which the proposed pipeline would be located. Following normal procedures, EPA's formal comment letter was based on the published DEIS and thus could not be submitted to the Department of State while the DEIS was being conducted. Rather it was sent to the Department of State on July 16, 2010, the conclusion of the comment period. As required by CAA Section 309, our comment letter was also made publicly available (by publication on our website).

We will continue to work with the Department of State as it responds to comments from EPA and other parties. Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may call Carolyn Levine in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-1859.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Cynthia Giles".

Cynthia Giles



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